



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05  
COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-02  
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /096 W

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R 231126Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3243  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 7178

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MASS, TH, US  
SUBJ: RTG LEADERS ON U.S. CREDIBILITY AND DEPENDABILITY

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN, DEFENSE MINISTER PRAMAN ADIREKSEN, AND ACTING MILITARY SUPREME COMMANDER KRIT SIWARA ALL GAVE NEWS CONFERENCES ON APRIL 22. BELOW ARE INFORMAL USIS TRANSLATIONS OF THEIR REMARKS PERTAINING TO U.S. CREDIBILITY AND CONSTANCY AS AN ALLY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN

"REPORTER: IS THIS PRESENT SITUATION IN INDOCHINA A DEFEAT SUFFERED BY A WORLD POWER?

CHATCHAI: I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT CAN BE CALLED A DEFEAT OR NOT. BUT WHAT I UNDERSTAND IS THAT AMERICA PULLED OUT BECAUSE CONGRESS WOULD NOT APPROVE A BUDGET, THEREFORE SINCE BOTH CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIETNAM DID NOT RECEIVE FURTHER SUPPORT,

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THEY WERE DEFEATED. THAT IS ONLY VERY ORDINARY. THIS IS A LESSON FOR THAILAND."

### 3. DEFENSE MINISTER PRAMAN ADIREKSEN

"REPORTER: IN THE ADDRESS HE (PRES. THIEU) DELIVERED ANNOUNCING HIS RESIGNATION, HE BLAMED THE UNITED STATES. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THIS STATEMENT HE MADE?

PRAMAN: DEFEAT CAN BE REGARDED FROM TWO ANGLES. FIRST, NO EFFORT WAS MADE TO REORGANIZE ONESELF AND TRY TO BECOME STRONG. DEPENDING ON FOREIGN AID ONLY CAN NEVER RESULT IN SURVIVAL. TURNING TO THAILAND, WE ARE IN A SIMILAR POSITION. WE MUST CONCENTRATE ON MAKING OURSELVES INCREASINGLY STRONG, BY BOOSTING UP THE MORALE OF OUR PEOPLE, IN REGARD TO OUR WEAPONS, AND IN ALL WAYS. FROM ANOTHER ANGLE, WE MUST ENDEAVOR TO FIND FRIENDS ALSO WHO WILL HELP US, SO THAT WE WILL NOT BE ALONE. THIS IS OF IMPORTANCE TOO."

### 4. ACTING MILITARY SUPREME COMMANDER GENERAL KRIT SIWARA

"REPORTER: WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON AMERICAN AID TO ASIAN COUNTRIES"

KRIT: I FEEL THAT CONFIDENCE CANNOT BE FELT IN IT, BECAUSE IF AMERICA DESERTS FRIENDS, AS IT HAS, IT IS A CAUSE FOR WORRY AND CONCERN ALSO. SHOULD WE BE IN A SIMILAR SITUATION, WE WOULD WORRY, EVERYBODY WOULD WORRY.

REPORTER: WILL IT BE NECESSARY FOR US TO TAKE UP FOR RECONSIDERATION ...

KRIT: IT IS UP TO THE GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER; IT IS NOT MY DUTY. THERE IS NO TRUTH WHATSOEVER IN THE REPORT PUBLISHED IN "THE NATION" (THAT KRIT WOULD VISIT THE U.S.). I TOTALLY DENY IT.

REPORTER: SHOULD AMERICA CUT OFF AID TO US, AS IN THE CASE OF CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM, WOULD WE BE ABLE TO STAND ON OUR OWN FEET? WE MUST SAY THAT WE CAN STAND ON OUR OWN FEET. WE HAVE OUR ARMED FORCES AND WE WILL PUT UP A STAND TO THE VERY END.

REPORTER: IN THIS PRESENT SITUATION, WHAT STAND DO YOU THINK

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WE OUGHT TO TAKE IN ORDER TO SURVIVE?

KRIT: WHAT SITUATION? IT IS A FACT THAT THE SITUATION HAS NOT REACHED US YET, BECAUSE THE FIGHTING IS WAR WAGED BETWEEN CAMBODIANS THEMSELVES AND BETWEEN VIETNAMESE THEMSELVES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. THE WAR AND THE FIGHTING HAS NOT GONE OUTSIDE THE LIMITS OF THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, FOR THE SAKE OF THE SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR NATION, IT IS THE DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE UP FOR RECONSIDERATION WHAT ACTION WE OUGHT TO TAKE. WE WISH TO FIND FRIENDS, BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ANY COUNTRY TO FIGHT ON ITS OWN AT THE PRESENT TIME. THEREFORE, WE WISH TO HAVE OTHER COUNTRIES AS OUR FRIENDS. ALL WE ASK IS FOR US NOT TO BE DESERTED WHEN WE ARE IN TROUBLE, AS IT THE U.S. HAS DESERTED OTHER NATIONS, OR WE WOULD BE IN DIRE STRAITS ALSO. I HAVE NOTICED THAT NEWSPAPERS HAVE PUBLISHED COMMENTS ATTACKING CONGRESS. ISN'T THAT TRUE? THIS TOTALLY DAMAGES THE IMAGE OF AMERICA.

REPORTER: BUT WE STILL FEEL HOPE THAT SEATO WOULD COME TO OUR AID.

KRIT: SEATO? IT IS TRUE THAT IT STILL EXISTS, BUT IT IS CONCENTRATED MAINLY ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AID. THIS IS MY FEELING."  
MASTERS

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